

It is with a heavy heart that I have listened to my constituents retell the tragic account of how family, friends, and sometimes they themselves were driven from their homeland and still yearn for peace and resolution after almost half a century of unjustified occupation. The Cypriot people's desire is for the same inalienable right to national sovereignty that the United States has championed at home and abroad. Recognizing this inescapable truth, I have been proud to cosponsor legislation urging Turkey to return confiscated churches and property, affirming our nation's commitment to the reunification of Cyprus, and strengthening our bilateral relationship with Greece. I call on all of my colleagues to support these efforts on behalf of our trusted ally as they work to overcome the political, cultural, and economic challenges wrought by four decades of illegal occupation.

Furthermore, the assault on Greek Orthodox culture and religious heritage is unfortunately not limited to Cyprus' struggle, as recent efforts by Islamist forces to convert the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul—one of the most sacred Greek Orthodox basilicas—into a mosque, make all too clear. Mr. Speaker, any efforts to stifle and diminish Orthodox Christian heritage in the region is the type of tyranny and intolerance that must be denounced by all free people across the globe.

I conclude Mr. Speaker, that if the United States is to truly honor its reputation as the world's brightest beacon of freedom and democracy, then our support for Cyprus must be clear and unwavering. I hope that on this somber occasion, we may unite in solidarity with our Cypriot allies, reassure them of our nation's ardent support, and look forward to replacing an annual observation of continued occupation with a joyous celebration of a reunified Cyprus.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, Friday, July 25, marks the 40th anniversary of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC). In 1974, Congress—with bipartisan support, including that of President Nixon—established LSC to be a major source of funding for civil legal aid in this country. LSC is a private, nonprofit corporation, funded by Congress, with the mission to ensure equal access to justice under law for all Americans by providing civil legal assistance to those who otherwise would be unable to afford it. LSC distributes nearly 94 percent of its annual Federal appropriations to 134 local legal aid programs, with nearly 800 offices serving every congressional district and U.S. territory.

LSC-funded legal aid programs make a crucial difference to millions of Americans by assisting with the most basic civil legal needs. These low-income Americans are women seeking protection from domestic violence, mothers trying to obtain child support or navigate custody hearings, families facing unlawful evictions or foreclosures that could leave them homeless, veterans seeking benefits duly earned, seniors defending against consumer

scams, and individuals who have lost their jobs and need help in applying for unemployment compensation and other benefits.

In my district, LSC provides funding to Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, an organization which provided legal aid to over 4,600 clients last year and looks to increase that number this year. But despite that enormous contribution to our society and an increasing demand for their services, Neighborhood Services of Los Angeles County, and many of its sister institutions across the country, have seen their LSC funding diminish in recent years.

Given the vital role played by LSC-funded attorneys, we need to do better than turn away more than 50 percent of eligible clients who seek assistance because of lack of LSC program resources. With the growing number of Americans eligible for services and increased demand for legal services, the need for legal aid attorneys has never been greater. On this anniversary, I salute the Legal Services Corporation and LSC-funded attorneys for the vital work they do every day on behalf of Americans who need qualified counsel, as well as the thousands of attorneys who contribute pro bono services to clients in need. Every day that a legal aid attorney protects the safety, security and health of our most vulnerable citizens, they bring this nation closer to living up to its commitment to equal justice for all.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to reunification efforts in Cyprus. July 20th marked the 40th anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus which tore the island in two. It is time to end this forcible division and ensure the rights of all Cypriots.

In the summer of 1974, Turkish armed forces invaded Cyprus and captured portions of the northern region of the island. Nearly a quarter of the captured residents were expelled from the island, of which about 80 percent were Greek Cypriots. The invasion concluded with the installation of the UN-monitored buffer zone which still divides Cyprus today. It is crucial that we find a solution that allows Greek and Turkish Cypriots to prosper together.

Cyprus is an anchor for U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and has been a reliable partner in combating terrorism and threats to international peace. Cyprus has played a critical role in the removal of chemical weapons from Syria. At a time when the stability of the wider Middle East has become increasingly fragile, it is important to ensure the security of a reliable ally in the region.

The Cypriot people deserve a free republic, one without foreign troops patrolling their neighborhoods and one where exiled Cypriots have the right to return to their homes. In early 2013, the President of Cyprus outlined several measures that, if adopted, could significantly contribute to a favorable atmosphere for reunification negotiations. I am reassured by the efforts made by the Cypriot government; however, as a nation who highly values its rela-

tionships with our allies, the United States should support initiatives to end the 40 year division of Cyprus. A united Cyprus is the best solution to respect the sovereignty of the Mediterranean nation as well as the rich history of its people.

RECOGNIZING 40 YEARS SINCE THE INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the 40th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus and to call for a reunited and independent Cyprus. The Turkish invasion in 1974 affected hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and its impact continues to be felt today as Cyprus is still one of the most highly militarized areas in the world. Furthermore Greek Cypriots are still being denied human rights. They have been denied their right to return to their homes, their properties have been sold or confiscated, and their right to religious freedom has been restricted.

The United States has strongly encouraged continuing formal negotiations between the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish communities. It is important that we continue to support Cyprus as it is an ally and strategic partner in combatting terrorism. Cyprus has also helped in the promotion of security and stability in the eastern Mediterranean. On the 40th anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus, the United States is reminded that we should strive to end this injustice and continue to support the long overdue reunification and independence of Cyprus.

REMEMBERING TRUMBULL COUNTY COMMISSIONER PAUL HELTZEL

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of my dear friend, Trumbull County, Ohio, Commissioner Paul Heltzel, 69, who passed away peacefully on the morning of Monday, June 30, 2014 at his home in the company of family after a valiant and brief fight with cancer.

Paul was a deeply thoughtful, concerned, and dedicated public servant. He was one of Trumbull County's greatest assets, previously serving in various roles in the community throughout his professional career before joining the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners in 2005. Paul was a proud advocate of our veterans and worked hard to secure the Samuel E. Lanza Veterans Resource Center for our local veterans. He was the recipient of the Regional Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Political Achievement Award given to the members of the Trumbull County Board of Commissioners for outstanding political achievement. Paul was a lively and active man who enjoyed the outdoors, antique motor cars, and spending time with his family.

Preceded in death by parents, Robert E. and Mary Jane Heltzel Sr. as well as his brother Mark E. Heltzel, Paul will continue to live on through the lives he has touched. Paul is survived by his wife of 30 years, Rosemary Heltzel; his sons, Ryan, Michael, Robert, and Paul; his siblings, Robert E. Heltzel Jr., Lawrence, Carl, Mary Jo, and D. Michael; five grandchildren Rae, Desmond, Theo, Christopher, and Michael Duke as well as 12 nieces and nephews. It gives me great pride to honor the life of Paul Heltzel. I am deeply saddened and I extend my condolences to his entire family. His sound and straightforward advice will be missed by me and my entire staff. Our county is a much better place because of Paul's service. He and his contributions to our community will never be forgotten.

HONORING MS. BERTHA SEPULVEDA

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Bertha Sepulveda for the honor she is receiving from the National Association of Hispanic Nurses and for her work in serving our community.

I first met Ms. Sepulveda when she was my sister's roommate at Arizona State University, and I observed her dedication firsthand when she worked for Maricopa Integrated Health Systems (MIHS) and I was on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Sepulveda's leadership and community service career spans over four decades and includes her work as co-founder and President of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Valle del Sol-Phoenix Chapter, as well as her role as co-founder of the Mesa Association of Hispanic Citizens in Mesa, AZ. In tribute to Ms. Sepulveda, for this and for her many years of selfless dedication to improving the health and well being of our community, an annual scholarship is being established in her honor by the National Hispanic Nurses Association. This scholarship will be known as The Bertha Sepulveda Community Service Scholarship and will be awarded to students who show exceptional community involvement, continuing her passion and legacy of serving our community.

Early in her career, Ms. Sepulveda served in the United States Air Force, and the Arizona National Guard as a Flight Nurse and First Lieutenant. It was during her service that she developed strong leadership skills as she provided nursing care to patients in the Air Force, in the United States, and abroad.

As Senior Vice-President for Marketing and Business Development MIHS, Ms. Sepulveda led strategic planning and outreach, including development of a strong network of community partnerships. During her career at MIHS, she also held the position of Director of Ambulatory Care, where she managed 13 outpatient health centers in Maricopa County and all outpatient clinics at Maricopa Medical Center.

Ms. Sepulveda retired from MIHS in 1997, after 28 years of service and dedication. She went on to give six more years of service as Director of Special Projects with Mesa Community College. Ms. Sepulveda has worked as

a Public Health Nurse, Outpatient Nurse, Administrator, Senior Executive, Leader, Mentor and Educator. It is without a doubt that Ms. Sepulveda has had a great impact on the health care of the Hispanic community and the uninsured.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Ms. Bertha Sepulveda for receiving this recognition from the National Hispanic Nurses Association in honor of the program development and community service she has performed during her long career, and for her contributions to the health and well being of the Hispanic community in Arizona.

HONORING MR. BILL ALLEN

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor a courageous American and proud son of Tennessee, U.S. Navy medic Bill Allen.

On June 7, 1944, during the Allied invasion of German occupied France, Bill Allen was a Navy medic aboard Coast Guard LST 523. His unit was tasked with ferrying dead and wounded American soldiers from the beaches of Normandy back to England, under heavy enemy fire in turbulent waters. 19-year-old Allen was assigned to the unimaginable job of "death detail."

On their 4th trip back into the fray, the ship hit a submerged mine which split the boat in half. As the boat sank beneath him, Mr. Allen narrowly made the leap to a life raft where he helped rescue other soldiers from certain death. Only 28 of the 145-member crew survived.

After the War, Mr. Allen moved back to Murfreesboro, Tennessee and worked at the Murfreesboro Electric Department for 32 years. He resides in Murfreesboro today, with his wife of 58 years, and continues to serve the local community as a funeral assistant at Woodfin Memorial Chapel.

I would like to recognize Mr. Allen on behalf of Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District. We are grateful for your service.

HONORING LAURA SCHER

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Laura Scher of Delray Beach, who turns 90 years old on August 2, 2014.

Laura Frankel Scher was born on August 2, 1924 in Brooklyn, New York, to Jewish immigrant parents. Along with her three siblings, she was raised to understand the value of hard work and education. After her high school graduation Laura began working as a legal secretary and married Seymour Roy Scher in 1944. Laura and Roy soon welcomed three daughters to their family—Carol, Judy, and Sandy—and raised them in East Meadow, Long Island. After a successful career working as the Executive Assistant to the president of Hofstra University, she retired and moved with

Roy to Florida in 1986. Today, Laura lives in Abbey Delray South, a community where she has had the opportunity to be involved in some of her favorite hobbies, including gardening and painting, and enjoy the fruits of a full and wonderful life.

Laura is truly an exceptional woman whom I am proud to represent in Florida's 21st District. I join her friends and family in celebrating this wonderful milestone, and I wish her good health and continued success in the coming year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 22, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 433 and No. 434 and I would have voted "nay" on No. 435 and No. 436.

CONGRATULATING THE BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the Bucks County Playhouse—located along the banks of the Delaware River in New Hope—has been a community icon in my district for generations.

Built inside a historic former mill by a group of artists and community leaders, the Bucks County Playhouse officially opened on July 1, 1939 with a production of the comedy *Springtime for Henry*.

In the 75 years since its opening, the Playhouse has played host to some of the biggest names in stage and screen; and entertained families from across my district and around the region. Thanks to the resolute support of volunteers and non-profits, the theater was pulled through tough times and beautifully renovated and re-opened in 2012.

The Playhouse's mission is to "stimulate, support, inspire and celebrate the performing arts in New Hope and Bucks County"—a goal worth fighting for and one made easier by their continued involvement in the arts in my district.

This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Bucks County Playhouse and join the New Hope community, Bucks County and all theater lovers in wishing it another 75 years of continued success and entertainment.

HONORING LESLIE WOODY

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, Abecedarium. A-b-e-c-e-d-a-r-i-u-m. Abecedarium.

It was 1985 and I was in the fifth grade at Yuma Middle School. Back then, the school